

The Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Undergraduate Major at St. John's University

Congratulations on your interest in the Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) field. Three main branches of CSD exist. The undergraduate program in SLP and AUD prepares students to apply for graduate study in all three of these branches.

Speech-Language Pathologist	Audiologist	Speech/Hearing Scientist
<p>Working with the full range of human communication, speech-language pathologists (SLPs) evaluate and diagnose speech, language, cognitive-communication, and swallowing disorders and treat such disorders in individuals of all ages, from infants to the elderly.</p> <p>In addition, SLPs may</p> <p>prepare future professionals in college and universities</p> <p>manage agencies, clinics, organizations, or private practices</p> <p>engage in research to enhance knowledge about human communication processes</p> <p>supervise and direct public school or clinical programs</p> <p>develop new methods and equipment to evaluate problems</p> <p>establish more effective treatments</p> <p>investigate behavioral patterns associated with communication disorders</p> <p>SLPs often work as part of a team, which may include teachers, physicians, audiologists, psychologists, social workers, rehabilitation counselors, and others. Corporate SLPs work with employees to improve communication with customers.</p>	<p>Audiologists are experts in the non-medical management of the auditory and balance systems. They specialize in the study of:</p> <p>normal and impaired hearing</p> <p>prevention of hearing loss</p> <p>identification and assessment of hearing and balance problems</p> <p>rehabilitation of persons with hearing and balance disorders</p> <p>In addition, audiologists may</p> <p>prepare future professionals in colleges and universities</p> <p>manage agencies, clinics, or private practices</p> <p>engage in research to enhance knowledge about normal hearing and the evaluation and treatment of hearing disorders</p> <p>design hearing instruments and testing equipment</p>	<p>Provide the research on which clinicians base their methodology, scientists in speech, language, and hearing</p> <p>explore trends in communication sciences</p> <p>develop strategies for expanding the knowledge base in their field</p> <p>investigate the biological, physical, and physiological processes of communication</p> <p>explore the impact of psychological, social, and other factors on communication disorders</p> <p>develop evidence-based methods for diagnosing and treating individuals with speech, language, and hearing problems</p> <p>collaborate with related professionals (such as engineers, physicians, dentists, and educators) to develop a comprehensive approach to diagnosing and treating individuals with speech, voice, language, and hearing problems</p> <p>In addition, researchers may</p> <p>prepare future professionals and scientists in colleges and universities</p> <p>conduct research at or consult with universities, hospitals, government health agencies, and industries</p> <p>As with audiologists and SLPs, research scientists are educated in their specific area of interest. However, while clinicians can practice with a master's degree or clinical doctorate, scientists must earn a research doctorate.</p>

Work Environments

Speech-Language Pathologist	Audiologist	Speech/Hearing Scientist
<p>SLPs practice in various settings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • public and private schools • hospitals • rehabilitation centers • short- and long-term nursing care facilities • community clinics • colleges and universities • private practice offices • state and local health departments • state and federal government agencies • home health agencies (home care) • adult day care centers • centers for persons with developmental disabilities • research laboratories <p>With such a wide variety of settings, working conditions also vary. Facilities in most school systems and clinics are comfortable and adequately equipped, as are most research facilities, colleges, and private practices.</p> <p>Because of the increasing demand for SLP services, work schedules may be heavy. An additional challenge is the constant need to update knowledge through education and periodicals. These challenges are balanced by the satisfaction of contributing to the quality of life of adults and children.</p>	<p>Audiologists provide services and work in many different types of facilities, including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • public and private schools • hospitals • rehabilitation centers • residential health facilities • community clinics • colleges and universities • private practice offices • health departments • state and federal government agencies • industries with hearing conservation programs • long-term care facilities • community hearing and speech centers • physicians' offices • research laboratories <p>Most audiologists work 40 to 50 hours per week, while some work part-time. They frequently work with other medical specialists, speech-language pathologists, educators, engineers, scientists, and allied health professionals and technicians.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colleges and universities • Research laboratories and institutes • State and federal government agencies • Private industry <p>The quality of your work environment depends on the revenue your facility generates. Facilities that produce more credible research generally have more revenue for equipment, laboratory facilities, and perhaps even salaries. Because the fields of audiology and SLP are expanding, so is related research. Chances are, if you develop a research plan and formulate it well, you'll find a funding source and laboratory setting.</p>